

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 SAJ-01 PM-03 L-02 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07 NSCE-00 ACDA-10

SSO-00 INRE-00 IO-03 DRC-01 /067 W

----- 080443

O P 092305Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7456

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY 4365

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

S E C R E T USNATO 4845

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CY, GR, TU, NATO, MARR

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: SEPTEMBER 9 MEETING OF NATO CYPRUS GROUP

1. SYG LUNS CONVENED CYPRUS GROUP ON SEPTEMBER 9 WITH PECK (U.K.), DE ROSE (FRANCE), KRAPF (FRG), DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM), RUMSFELD (U.S.), VAN CAMPEN AND KILLHAM (INTERNATIONAL STAFF) ATTENDING.

2. LUNS BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT OF THE KARAMANLIS LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTERS. DE STAERCKE RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE ADEQUACY OF THE CYPRUS GROUP AS THE FORUM TO DEAL WITH THIS SUBJECT. THE DEAN REPORTED THAT THE EXISTENCE OF THIS GROUP IS KNOWN AMONG THE ALLIES AND SOME FEAR IT MAY BECOME A DECISION-MAKING ORGANIZATION AND THEY FEEL SOMEWHAT EXCLUDED. DE STAERCKE THOUGHT THE ISSUE OF A RESPONSE TO THE KARAMANLIS LETTER PROVIDED AN OCCASION TO ORGANIZE A "MORE INCLUSIVE" INFORMAL WORKING GROUP. HE PROPOSED
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THAT FOR DISCUSSIONS ON THE CONTENT OF REPLIES TO THE KARAMANLIS LETTER A GROUP OF THIRTEEN (THE FIFTEEN MINUS GREECE AND TURKEY) WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

3. PECK AGREED, AND CIRCULATED A PAPER (SEPTTEL) OUTLINING HMG'S INCLINATIONS AS TO SHAPE OF REPLY. PECK SAID HE WOULD PRESENT THIS PAPER TO SUCH A GROUP OF THIRTEEN WHEN THEY MET.

4. DE ROSE SAID THAT IF THIS GROUP WAS CONVENED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING GREECE'S ROLE IN NATO, HE WASN'T SURE IF HE WOULD BE PERMITTED TO ATTEND. BUT IF THE PURPOSE WAS PUT ON THE BASIS OF ALLIED DISCUSSION ON HOW TO RESPOND TO THE KARAMANLIS LETTER, DE ROSE SAID HE COULD ATTEND BECAUSE HIS PRIME MINISTER ALSO RECEIVED SUCH A LETTER. DE STAERCKE SAID HE HOPED THAT FRANCE WOULD CONTINUE TO STAY INVOLVED IN THESE MATTERS. HE NOTED THAT FRANCE HAS RESERVED ITS POSITION ON THE DPC MAINTAINING THAT THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO ATTEND IF THEY WISH.

5. LUNS DECIDED TO CALL SUCH A MEETING FOR 1600 LOCAL SEPTEMBER 10. THE SYG EMPHASIZED THAT SUCH A MEETING OF THIRTEEN WOULD NOT BE A FORMAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL BUT RATHER AN INFORMAL GROUP ORGANIZED UNDER HIS AUTHORITY TO CONSULT WITH ANYONE HE WISHES AT ANY TIME.

6. LUNS WENT ON TO REMARK THAT HE WILL MEET WITH GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER MAVROS ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 11. ONE OF HIS TASKS WILL BE TO TRY TO DISPEL THE IMPRESSION MAVROS AND SOME OF HIS COUNTRYMEN SEEM TO HAVE THAT NATO IS NOT INTERESTED IN GREECE. LUNS RECALLED THE MISUNDERSTANDINGS SURROUNDING THE GREEK REQUEST IN LATE JULY FOR A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. LUNS INSISTED THAT HE DID NOT REFUSE TO CALL SUCH A MEETING NOR DID HE ATTEMPT TO DISCOURAGE IT. HE MERELY POINTED OUT TO THE GREEK PERMREP THAT WHILE ANY NATION COULD CALL FOR A NAC, NO ONE, NOT EVEN THE SECRETARY GENERAL, COULD ASSURE THAT MINISTERS WOULD SHOW UP. HE ALSO EXPLAINED THAT HIS RETURN TO HIS VACATION WAS CONTINGENT ON ACHIEVING A CEASE-FIRE IN CYPRUS, AND NOTHING ELSE. LUNS BELIEVES THAT THIS MISUNDERSTANDING IS DUE TO INACCURATE REPORTING BY GREEK PERMREP.

7. LUNS SAID HE WILL POINT OUT TO MAVROS THAT THE UNITED STATES AND THE ENTIRE ALLIANCE ARE VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN GREECE. THE SYG
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EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT SOME GREEK RESENTMENT IS DUE TO WHAT HE CALLED "SILLY" REASONING THAT SINCE SECRETARY KISSINGER DID NOT PERSONALLY ENGAGE IN SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY AT THE OUTSET OF THE CYPRUS CRISIS, THIS PROVES THAT U.S. DOES NOT TAKE GREEK PROBLEMS SERIOUSLY.

8. FINALLY, LUNS REPORTED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM SECEUR FOR POLITICAL GUIDANCE AS TO HOW TO PROCEED ON SEVERAL MATTERS RELATING TO THE GREEK MILITARY WITHDRAWAL, SPECIFICALLY DEPARTURE OF GREEK OFFICERS FROM IZMIR, NON-ATTENDANCE OF GREEK STUDENTS AT NATO DEFENSE COLLEGE, AND INDECISION ON THE PART OF SOME GREEK OFFICIALS AS TO WHICH MEETINGS THEY SHOULD ATTEND AND WHICH THEY SHOULDN'T. CYPRUS GROUP AGREED THAT IT WAS PROPER FOR SACEUR TO ASK FOR SUCH POLITICAL GUIDANCE BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT WAS WISE

NOT TO RESPOND TO THE REQUEST AT THIS TIME.

RUMSFELD

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1974
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO04845
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740988/abbrywzw.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <04-Oct-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CYPRUS: SEPTEMBER 9 MEETING OF NATO CYPRUS GROUP
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CY, GR, TU, NATO, MARR
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
GENEVA
USUN N Y
NICOSIA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005